## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

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1	1. A method for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system
2	including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), and a Mobile
3	Switching Center (MSC) including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme,
<b>A</b>	comprising the steps of:
5	storing location data for said MSC in said HLR;
6	receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;
7	determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;
8	comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;
9	populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC
10	and MC point code schemes are the same; and
11	delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.

	1	2. A method for \$hort Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system
	2	including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), a Mobile Switching
	3	Center (MSC), including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme, comprising the steps
(	4	of:
	5	storing location data for said MSC in said HLR, wherein said location data
		includes at least one Mobile Switching Center Identification Number (MSCIN) parameter;
	7	receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;
	8	determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;
	9	comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;
	10	populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC
	11	and MC point code schemes are the same;
	12	otherwise, populating said SMS message with the MSCIN parameter; and
	13	delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.
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	1	3. A method for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system
	2	including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), a Mobile Switching
	3	Center (MSC), including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme, comprising the steps
	4	of:
\	5	storing location data for said MSC, wherein said location data includes a SMS
Cal	6	address in said HLR and wherein said location data does not contain a MSCIN parameter;
Jun'		receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;
	8	determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;
m. « 6 = 10 m	9	comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;
<b>1.1</b> 7.1 8 1	10	populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC
1 to 153 '4,1	11	and MC point code schemes are the same; and
	12	delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.
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	1	4. The method of Claim 2, wherein the MSCIN parameter is in Global
<u> </u>	2	Title Address (GTA) format.
	1	5. The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.212
	2	identifier.
	1	6. The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.164
	2	identifier.
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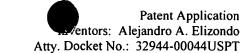
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- 7. The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses a combination of said E.212 and E.164 identifiers.
- 1 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said HLR has a database including at
  2 least one country code and at least one corresponding point code scheme.
  - 9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified according to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard-41.
  - 10. The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified according to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standard Q.700.
- 1 11. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme occurs in said database in said HLR.
- 1 12. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining the MC point code scheme further includes the step of determining a nationality of the MC.

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13. A node for determining whether a Message Center (MC) and a Mobile

2 Switching Center (MSC) share a common point code, comprising:

a memory including a database having a plurality of point code schemes and a corresponding plurality of country codes.

14. The node of Claim 13 wherein the node is a Home Location Register (HLR).

